GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
CIVIL AVIATION
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2000
ANSWERED ON:27.07.2017
Aviation Security Policy
Kesineni Shri Srinivas

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Ministry is aware of new flight security measures, including the restriction of laptops, computers in cabin luggage enacted by the United States of America and Britain and the impact of these measures on Indian air travel and aviation industry, if so, the details thereof;

(b) whether there is any scheme in place or plan thereof, to adjust airport and aviation security policy based on these measures;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) whether the Ministry is aware of the closure of airspace to Qatar flights by certain Middle Eastern countries, including Saudi Arabia, the United Arab Emirates, Bahrain and Egypt and the impact of these measures on Indian air travel and aviation industry, if so, the details thereof; and

(e) whether there is any scheme in place or plan thereof, to ensure alternate routes for flights in the case of such route limitations and if so, the details thereof?

Answer

The Minister of State in the Ministry of CIVIL AVIATION

(Shri Jayant Sinha)

(a) Yes, Madam, Bureau of Civil Aviation Security(BCAS) has received Transportation Security Administration(TSA) advisory through Air India and other airlines;

(b) & (c) Yes, Madam. The latest Emergency Amendment 1546-17-02 (Enhanced Security measure to be undertaken by foreign air carriers) brought out by the TSA makes it mandatory for the foreign air carriers to perform Explosive Trace Device(ETD) checks at Secondary Ladder Point Checks(SLPC) for all portable electronic devices/gadgets which are larger than a cell phone or smart phone in certain cases. As such the instructions are applicable to airport in India as Last Port of Departure (LPD) Stations for US bound flights. Air India is operating flights to the US with New Delhi and Mumbai as LPD Stations. BCAS has issued instructions to commission ETD at secondary screening check points for complying with the aforesaid TSA requirement.;

(d) to (e) Yes Madam. The Government is aware of the closure of airspace by certain Middle East countries. To alleviate the hardship of travelling passengers, the Government has granted permission to Indian carriers to mount additional flights to Doha, Qatar during June to October, 2017.